



Welcome to the Clark County Community Development e-News. We send this publication out once a month to announce the latest in what's happening. We will attempt to cover a broad range of topics that we hope will be of interest to you. We need your input! We welcome your comments about our news bulletin; and if you have topics you would like us to cover and we haven't, we'll do our best to accommodate you!★

## Changes at the Permit Center

Have you visited the Community Development Permit Center lately? If so, you may have noticed some new faces. In the last nine months, the county has hired all new building permit specialists. The reason for the turnover has been due to promotions and several staff members having a desire to work even closer with the building community. [Click here](#) to read the entire article.★

## So what do you guys do anyway?

It's a fair question as the actual title 'Fire Inspector' doesn't really describe what we do. And to answer it, Jon Dunaway, our new Fire Marshal, usually doesn't have to look very far to find an example.

Recently, Jon found himself in a fairly new and well-known hotel that was equipped with the latest in fire protection technology such as fire sprinklers, fire hose connections in the stairwells, and an automatic

fire alarm system throughout. Walking through the corridors he found several fire code violations. Actually, the word 'found' is not accurate because he really didn't have to look for them.

In the event of a fire, the things Jon saw in the hotel would compromise the integrity of the exit corridors. For example, there was a fire-rated door with the self-closing device removed, a corridor with a non fire-rated window installed after the building was finalized, an exit door chained closed, and several self-closing, fire-rated doors defeated with a 1-cent piece of wood holding them open. These might seem like trivial fire code violations, but the truth of the matter is that these things cost lives in a fire.

Once buildings are signed-off for final occupancy, they are regularly inspected by the fire inspectors to ensure continued compliance with building and fire codes. Buildings that have a high concentration of people or types of occupants at greater risk and buildings requiring operational permits are inspected annually.

We all assume that public buildings are safe. For the most part that is true, thanks in large part to the fire inspectors who require building owners to comply with building and fire codes. That is what a fire inspector does, and ours do a terrific job to keep our citizens safe.★

## April 2005

### Inside:

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## Do you or someone you know have a puppy or kitten?

Did you know that all puppies and kittens are required to be licensed at 8 weeks and older? Did you know that a puppy or kitten license is free until the pet reaches six months of age?

Licensing protects pets in ways not often imagined. By obtaining the required pet license, responsible owners provide for emergency services that protect their pets. All too often indoor pets, or pets confined to a yard, may need assistance when an owner's household faces unforeseen accidents like fire, natural disaster, or attacks by other animals. Pet license fees provide funding for public safety and cruelty investigations as well as animal shelters and ambulance services.

Licensing provides protection for your pet in many ways:

- A telephone call if the pet is lost
- A longer stay at the shelter for an owner to locate
- Incentives to spay and neuter pets
- Local systems for tracking other forms of identification, including microchips.

To obtain or purchase a pet license please visit our [Web site](#) for information, forms, and locations.★

## Covering a lot of ground

Recently Clark College instructor, Vicki Hastey, approached Development Services Manager, Mike Butts, with a strange request.

Vicki, formerly a Community Development employee, teaches landscaping courses at Clark College. One of her current projects is a re-training

program for people who are interested in the landscaping field. Vicki asked if she could bring in a group of students for a discussion on landscaping.

Knowing that landscaping covers a lot of ground (excuse the pun), Mike put together a staff team to help educate the students on different roles that Clark County serves in the landscaping process.

Sheila Pendleton-Orme discussed how erosion control issues affect landscapers. She stressed the importance of water quality and when she discussed the enforcement process, more than a few sleeping students sat up and took notice.

Mitch Kneipp discussed how staff deals with landscape reviews. Specifically, he discussed the code and helped them understand how and why landscaping is used for aesthetics, to reduce light and glare impacts and noise mitigation.

Dave Howe discussed the different types of habitat that are governed by the Habitat Protection Ordinance. He spoke about the importance of the habitat aspect in their chosen field. Dave also distributed a list of native plant species and emphasized their role in providing habitat.

Lastly, Brent Davis provided a description of how wetlands can be identified and some of the important issues that landscapers need to consider when in or near these areas. Brent also taught the students how to conduct research using the "Maps On-Line" tool on the county Web site.



## Quick Clicks

- Comprehensive Plan Update
- Data Library
- Team Focus
- Department Calendar

## Divisions

- Animal Control
- Building Division
- Code Enforcement
- Permit Center
- Development Services
- Engineering Services
- Fire Marshal's Office
- Long Range Planning

All in all, Vicki gave our staff an excellent rating. She admitted that most of the students had groaned in resignation when informed that they would be going to the county. However, once again, our outstanding staff dispelled the "Big Brother Government" myth by being friendly, knowledgeable and entertaining.★

### Kudos!

**Bryan Mattson** was promoted to CD Specialist. Bryan has worked as an Assistant CD Specialist since June 2004. Congratulations Bryan!



**Stuart Morley** recently obtained his Commercial Plumbing Inspector certification and was promoted to Combination Inspector II. Stuart

achieved all six certifications required for this classification in less than six months! Excellent work Stuart!

**Dave Maret** recently obtained his Accessibility Inspector/Plans Examiner professional certification. Well done Dave!

**Chuck Clark** recently earned his Bachelor's Degree in Management and Organizational Leadership from George Fox University. Congratulations Chuck!



**Kathy Schroader** was promoted from an OAI to Program Assistant and now manages central files. Good job Kathy!



**Angie Merrill** was promoted from an Office Assistant II to Assistant CD Specialist. Angie's first day with Customer Service was April 18. Hooray Angie!

Congratulations to the following building inspectors who have recently obtained professional certifications.



**Michelle Wall**, Commercial Building Inspector

**Boe Richards**, Residential Mechanical Inspector



**David Faulkner**, Residential Building Inspector

**Stuart Morley**, Residential Plumbing Inspector★



### What's On TV Tonight?

There is a lot on CVTV (channel 23) about Community Development. For example, you can watch the animal control, land use, and code enforcement hearings, as well as the county's Planning Commission. To see the complete schedule click here: [www.cvtv.org](http://www.cvtv.org) ★

### Expanding our audience

Do you know others who would benefit from this information? Any list serves that would be appropriate for us to post this on? On the other hand, if you would like to be taken off our e-mailing list, just let us know. Contact Désirée at [desiree.demoney@clark.wa.gov](mailto:desiree.demoney@clark.wa.gov).★

## New Faces



**Kelli Frost** has accepted an Office Assistant III position in Code Enforcement. Prior to joining Community Development,

Kelli worked for Public Works for 5 years. She has degrees in History and Philosophy from Portland State.

When not working, Kelli enjoys hiking with her husband of ten years, Erik, and their two dogs.

### David Bottamini

has accepted an Engineer II position with Engineering Services. Prior to joining Community Development,



David worked for the Yakima County Surface Water Management Division. David has a Bachelors Degree from Clarkson University, New York.

Outside of work, David enjoys church activities, reading and is a Red Sox fan.★

## ComDev in the News

**Clark County hopes to produce another growth plan by October.** The Oregonian 4-18-05

[http://www.oregonlive.com/metronorth/oregonian/index.ssf?base/metro\\_north\\_news/1113645886174850.xml](http://www.oregonlive.com/metronorth/oregonian/index.ssf?base/metro_north_news/1113645886174850.xml)

**Repair service at crux** The Columbian 4-17-05

[http://www.columbian.com/04172005/front\\_pa/266382.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/04172005/front_pa/266382.cfm)

**Influx of residents marches on.**

The Columbian 4-14-05

[http://www.columbian.com/04142005/front\\_pa/265445.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/04142005/front_pa/265445.cfm)

**County seeks public vote on annexations.** The Columbian 4-14-05

[http://www.columbian.com/04142005/clark\\_co/265737.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/04142005/clark_co/265737.cfm)

**Fire that destroyed house blamed on gas lamps.** The Columbian 4-9-05

[http://www.columbian.com/04092005/clark\\_co/263875.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/04092005/clark_co/263875.cfm)

**Fire destroys Washougal home.**

The Columbian 4-8-05


[http://www.columbian.com/04082005/clark\\_co/263645.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/04082005/clark_co/263645.cfm)

**Growth plan review to start.** The Columbian 4-8-05

[http://www.columbian.com/04082005/front\\_pa/263449.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/04082005/front_pa/263449.cfm)

**Bar stirs up more trouble.** The Columbian 3-27-05


[http://www.columbian.com/03272005/clark\\_co/258805.cfm](http://www.columbian.com/03272005/clark_co/258805.cfm)★



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